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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORTApplication Number  
EP 97 91 9191

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT					
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.6)		
X	US 5 339 955 A (HORAN ET AL.) 23 August 1994 * the whole document *	1-6,11, 15,18	A61B17/06 A61B19/02		
X	US 5 097 963 A (CHERNOSKY ET AL.) 24 March 1992 * the whole document *	1,2,7,8, 11,12			
Y	-----	9,10			
Y	US 5 363 862 A (MERCIER) 15 November 1994 * abstract; figures *	9,10			
X	US 4 967 914 A (KEETON) 6 November 1990 * abstract; figures *	1,2,7,8, 11-14, 16,17			
A	US 4 974 728 A (COLTON) 4 December 1990 * abstract; figures *	-----			
<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6)</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px; text-align: center;">A61B</td> </tr> </table>				TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6)	A61B
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<p>The supplementary search report has been based on the last set of claims valid and available at the start of the search.</p>					
1	Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner		
EPO FORM 1503 03 82 (P07C04)	THE HAGUE	23 February 1999	Giménez Burgos, R		
<b>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</b>					
X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document					
T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document					